REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are currently pending.

In the Office Action mailed February 26, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as non-statutory subject matter; rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for indefiniteness; rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0068728 to Blevins et al. (Blevins). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Bu this amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and 12 to more clearly define the present invention.

Rejection of Claims 1-15 Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection. To expedite prosecution, however, Applicants have made claim amendments in response to the Examiner's section 101 rejection. Regarding amended claim 1, it recites a "computer-implemented method" as well as "the context object stored in a repository." Regarding claim 6, Applicants submit that it recites "a repository storing a plurality of context objects." Regarding amended claim 11, it recites "the context object stored in a repository." For at least these reasons, independent claims 1, 6, and 11 as well as dependent claims 2-5, 7-10, and 12-15, at least by reason of their dependency from independent claims 1, 6, and 11, are statutory subject matter, and thus the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 of claims 1-15 should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. §112

Applicants submit that the amendments to claims 1, 2, and 12 obviate the basis

for the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Thus, the

rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 of those claims and any corresponding dependent

claims should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-15 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by

Blevins. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites a combination of features including, among other things, "defining

a context object for a message, the context object being an abstraction of content of the

message, the context object stored in a repository" and "assigning the context object to

one or more interfaces through which the message is to be communicated."

The Examiner appears to allege that Blevins at page 3, paragraphs 0048 and

0049 as well as page 8, paragraph 0117 discloses "defining," as recited in claim 1.

Office Action, page 4. A careful scrutiny of Blevins paragraphs 0048, 0049, and 0117

reveals that Blevins fails to disclose any form of a context object, much less a context

object being an abstraction of the content of the message. Specifically, Blevins states:

> [0048] Upon receipt of a business message, a B2B engine can create a
> message envelope that acts as a container for the business message as it
> is processed through the B2B engine. Message envelopes can be
> instances of a b2b.protocol.messaging.MessageEnvelope class.

> [0049] A message envelope can be used for routing purposes and is
> analogous to a paper envelope for a letter. The message envelope can
> contain the business message plus addressing information, such as the
> identity of the sender (return address) and a recipient of the business
> message (destination address). Message envelopes can also contain
> other information about the business message.

Blevins, paragraphs 0048 and 0049. Paragraphs 0048 and 0049 merely describe the use of an "envelope" with a source and a destination rather than an abstraction of the message contents. Moreover, Blevins paragraph 0117 fails to cure the noted shortcomings of paragraphs 0048 and 0049 since paragraph 0117 merely states:

> [0117] A b2b.protocol.messaging.MessageEnvelope component can represent the container, or envelope, for a business message. The MessageEnvelope can contain the actual business message plus high-level routing and processing information associated with the business message, such as the sender URL and the URL for one recipient. There can be a single message envelope for each recipient. A Java InputStream can be available in case access to the native message is needed. As message content modification may not be allowed, however, no OutputStream may be provided.

Blevins, paragraph 117. Indeed, the "envelope" used by Blevins includes the "actual business message" rather than a context object providing an abstraction of that message. Because Blevins fails to disclose the claimed "context object," Blevins fails to disclose at least the following feature of claim 1: "defining a context object for a message, the context object being an abstraction of content of the message, the context object stored in a repository." Therefore, claim 1 and claims 2-5, at least by reason of their dependency from independent claim 1, are not anticipated by Blevins, and the rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Moreover, the Examiner also alleges that Blevins at paragraphs 0048 and 0049 discloses "assigning," as recited in claim 1. Office Action, page 4. But rather than disclose assigning context objects to one or more interfaces to which the message is to be sent, Blevins paragraphs 0048 and 0049 merely describes that "a message envelope

-7-

can be used for routing purposes and is analogous to a paper envelope for a letter."

Accordingly, there is no indication in the paragraphs relied upon by the Examiner that

Blevins assigns a "context object" to interfaces to which the message is to be sent.

Therefore, Blevins fails to disclose at least the following feature of claim 1: "assigning

the context object to one or more interfaces through which the message is to be

communicated." For this additional reason, claim 1 and claims 2-5, at least by reason of

their dependency from independent claim 1, are not anticipated by Blevins, and the

rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Because Blevins fails to disclose the claimed "context objects," as noted above,

Blevins fails to disclose at least the following feature of claim 6: "a repository storing a

plurality of context objects, wherein each context object is an abstraction of content of a

message, and wherein each context object is assigned to at least one of the one or

more interfaces to facilitate access to content of the messages communicated through

the message interfaces." Therefore, claim 6 and claims 7-10, at least by reason of their

dependency from independent claim 6, are not anticipated by Blevins, and the rejection

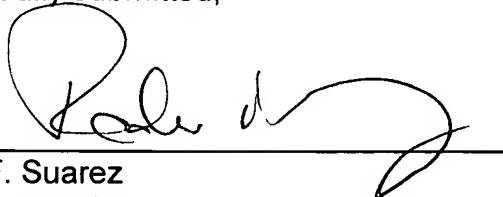of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Claim 11, although of different scope, includes features that are similar to those

noted above with respect to claim 1. For at least the reasons given above with respect

to claim 1, independent claim 11 and claims 12-15, at least by reason of their

dependency from independent claim 11, are not anticipated by Blevins, and the

rejection of those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. No fee is believed to be due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 34874-090-UTL/2003P00732US.

Respectfully submitted,

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Pedro F. Suarez
Reg. No. 45,895

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
9255 Towne Centre Drive, Suite 600
San Diego, CA 92121
Customer No. 64280
Tel.: 858/320-3040
Fax: 858/320-3001

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